

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BONN 04990 211759Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 OES-06 FEA-01 ACDA-10 CIAE-00

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-07 DODE-00

PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00 SS-15 /108 W

-----212139Z 026869 /73

R 211747Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6681

INFO ERDA WASHDC

ERDA GERMANTOWN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

USMISSION OECD PARIS

UNCLAS BONN 04990

DEPT. PASS NRC

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, GW

SUBJECT: DEMONSTRATION AGAINST GERMAN NUCLEAR

REACTOR AT GROHNDE

1. SUMMARY. TO THE REPORTED SURPRISE OF THE STATE
AUTHORITIES OF LOWER SAXONY A PEACEFUL DEMONSTRATION
OF SOME 10000 NUCLEAR OPPONENTS AGAINST THE
CONSTRUCTION OF A NUCLEAR REACTOR AT GROHNDE EVOLVED
INTO A VIOLENT CLASH WITH POLICE FORCES. THIS
INCIDENT MARKS ANOTHER IMPORTANT STEP IN THE HISTORY
OF THE NUCLEAR OPPOSITION IN THE FRG, BECAUSE
THIS WAS THE FIRST LARGE DEMONSTRATION -- AND THE
FIRST VIOLENT PROTEST -- AGAINST A REACTOR IN AN
ADVANCED CONSTRUCTION STATE. END SUMMARY.

2. THE FIRST PARTIAL CONSTRUCTION LICENSE FOR THIS
1360-EMW PRESSURIZED WATER REACTOR WAS ISSUED
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BONN 04990 211759Z

TO KRAFTWERK UNION (KWU) ON JUNE 8,1976. IT
APPROVED THE SITE SELECTION, THE SITE CONCEPT,
THE REACTOR CONTAINMENT DESIGN INCLUDING THE
SAFETY VESSEL, ALL RACTOR AUXILIARY COMPONENTS
AND THE SWITCH PLANT. CONSTRUCTION WORK PROCEEDED
ACCORDING TO THE SCHEDULE AND THE SECOND PARTIAL
LICENSE IS EXPECTED FOR SPRING 1977. FIRST

OFFICIAL COMMENTS SEE NO DELAY IN THE SCHEDULE
BECAUSE OF THE RECENT INCIDENT AND CONFIRM 1981
AS THE STARTING DATE.

3. MASS MEDIA GAVE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO THE
EVENTS AT GROHNDE WHICH IS SITUATED IN SOUTHERN
LOWER SAXONY NEAR THE CITY OF HAMELN. FOR
SATURDAY MARCH 19 TWO INDEPENDENT DEMONSTRATIONS
HAD BEEN APPROVED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITIES: ONE
BY THE REGIONAL CITIZENS' INITIATIVE ORGANIZATION
AND ANOTHER BY THE RADICAL COMMUNIST FEDERATION
OF WEST GERMANY (KBW). ACCORDING TO MEDIA
COMMENT THE RALLY OF THE CITIZENS' INITIATIVE
WAS SLOWLY INFILTRATED BY KBW GROUPS. AT NOON SOME
10000 DEMONSTRATORS APPROACHED THE NEARBY REACTOR.
UPON ARRIVAL ABOUT 2000 "ACTIVISTS" BEGAN CUTTING
THE BARBED WIRE FENCE SURROUNDING THE REACTOR
AND TORE DOWN ENTRANCE GATES FOLLOWING AN
OBVIOUSLY LONG PREPARED, VERY DETAILED PLAN. SOME
4500 POLICEMEN HAD TO OVERCOME STRONG AND
VIOLENT RESISTANCE TO PROTECT THE CONSTRUCTION SITE
FROM COMPLETE DEMOLITION. ON SUNDAY REPAIR WORK
STARTED AND IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT ROUTINE
CONSTRUCTION WORK WOULD RESUME ON MONDAY.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT:
THIS INCIDENT STANDS IN MARKED CONTRAST TO THE
MOST RECENT DEMONSTRATIONS AT BROKDORF AND
GORLEBEN WHERE PEACEFUL NUCLEAR OPPONENTS
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 BONN 04990 211759Z

PREVENTED RADICAL GROUPS FROM VIOLENCE.
PARTICULARLY AFTER THE LATTER CASE POLITICIANS
HAD EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THIS TYPE OF MASSIVE
AND DETERMINED, BUT NONETHELESS PEACEFUL,
DEMONSTRATION WOULD OPEN A DOOR FOR A NEW WAY
TO ACHIEVE UNDERSTANDING. IT SEEMS DOUBTFUL IF
THE PROBLEM CAN BE SO EASILY SOLVED NOW THAT THE
GOVERNMENT OF LOWER SAXONY HAS BECOME A VICTIM
OF ITS OWN LACK OF CAUTION.

STOESSEL

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PUBLIC DEMONSTRATIONS, CONSTRUCTION, REPORTS, NUCLEAR REACTORS, NUCLEAR POWER PLANTS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, POLICE FORCES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 21-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BONN04990
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770096-1026
Format: TEL
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770341/aaaabiug.tel
Line Count: 108
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 08855cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Sep-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3053142
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DEMONSTRATION AGAINST GERMAN NUCLEAR REACTOR AT GROHNDE
TAGS: TECH, ENRG, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/08855cb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009